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**News Release**

For immediate release

## **Valles Caldera Winter Recreation Season Ends Sunday, March 1st**

### **Free Session Planned**

**Jemez Springs, N.M.-** Spring arrived early at the Valles Caldera National Preserve bringing with it an end to the cross-country skiing and snowshoeing season. Unseasonably warm temperatures and a lack of new snow contributed to a dramatic decline in conditions which also forced cancellation of the March 7<sup>th</sup> moonlight event. However, Preserve officials will bring the season to a close this Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, with Public Appreciation Day when visitors may enjoy what snow remains for free!

The Coyote Call Trail and surrounding area south of Highway 4 will remain open daily for free skiing and snowshoeing during daylight hours, as long as conditions permit. The trails are not groomed. *Sign in/out at the trail head is required.*

The Valles Caldera National Preserve is accepting reservations for the 2009 summer recreation season which begins May 21st. For more information check the Valles Caldera National Preserve website <http://www.vallescaldera.gov/comevisit/> for a menu of scheduled activities.

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